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Docket No. (42568) 60393

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: Albert R. HEILMANN David BERETTA III

Examiner:

Serial No. 10/773,623

Group:

Filed: February 6, 2004

For: IN-WELL AERATION DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 11, 2004.

By: Colith D. Sillman

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

### I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II.	COPIES
<b></b> ,	OCITED O

a. X Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

# III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

a. X Except as may be indicated below in (b), all of the patents, publications

- or other information are in the English language or were cited in an English language Search Report, a copy of which is attached hereto (concise explanation not required).
- b. \_\_\_\_\_A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

c	The following	additional	information	is provided	for the	Examiner's
consideration:						

**FEES** 

# IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (check one box)

- a. \_\_\_within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (1)). No fee or certification is required.
- b. \_\_\_within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (2)). No fee or certification is required.
- c. X before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

# V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check one box)

before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (2)).

aNo certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required b 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
or bSee the certification below. No fee is required.
VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)
The undersigned hereby certified that
a each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
bno item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
cSome of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
VII. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R §1.97(d)
<u>after</u> the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but <u>before</u> the payment of the Issue Fee, <u>and</u> the requisite Certification, petition, and petition fee are included herein.
aafter the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113
bsee certificate above
ca fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 CFR §1.17(p)
dapplicant hereby petitions that this Information Disclosure Statement is considered in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. Should any further fee be associated with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

X\_No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition, if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

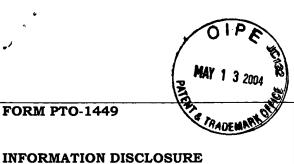
Date 5/11/4

Respectfully submitted,

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**FORM PTO-1449** 

**STATEMENT** 

DOCKET NO: SERIAL NO.: (42568) 60393 10/773,623 APPLICANT: Albert R. Heilmann, et al. GROUP NO. FILING DATE:

February 6, 2004

#### UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM.		DOCUMENT NUMBER					FILING DATE
INITIALS		DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	IF APPROPRIATE	
	A1	4,457,375	07/03/84	Cummins			
	A2	5,044,440	09/03/91	Stinessen et al.			
	А3	5,354,459	10/11/94	Smith			
	A4	5,755,288	05/26/98	Bearden et al.			

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT					TRANSLATION
	NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	YES/NO
						-

# OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

EXAMINER:		DATE:	